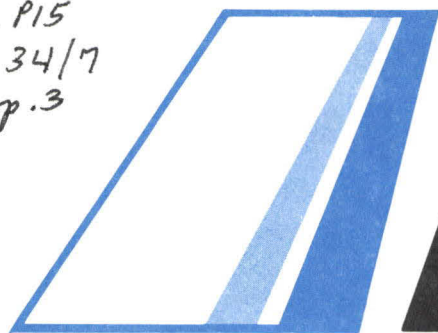


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# Palmetto AVIATION

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Architect's drawing of the proposed Charleston Airport Terminal

## Charleston Terminal to include customs facility

Charleston's new \$50 million terminal building will include a U.S. Customs facility for processing international traffic, according to the Charleston County Aviation Authority, making the Port City a true southern international gateway.

Development of the Federal Inspection Service (FIS) facility, as it is called, came about after the U.S. Air Force decided to incorporate the commercial charter operations of the Military Airlift Command (MAC) in the new terminal.

Inclusion of the MAC activities will increase the passenger traffic using the

airport by an estimates 200,000 people, bringing the total yearly passenger load in the terminal to 1.1 million people, the Authority said.

Also, according to the Authority, the existence of the FIS will allow for and hopefully encourage other international air carriers to use Charleston as a port of entry.

"The Authority has already received word from various South Carolina organizations, with an active interest in overseas charters, of a strong sentiment for Charleston to be the next

*continued, p.2*





PALMETTO AVIATION is an official publication of the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission. It is designed to inform members of the aviation community, and others interested in aviation, of local developments in aviation and aviation facilities and to keep readers abreast of national and international trends in aviation.

The Aeronautics Commission is a state agency created in 1935 by the S.C. General Assembly to foster and promote air commerce within the state.

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# Aircraft Confiscation by South Carolina Law

by **HENRY M. BURWELL**  
Attorney at Law

Crimes or torts committed by an aircraft operator while in flight in South Carolina are controlled by the laws of this state. There are varying misdemeanor penalties provided for in Title 55 of the SC Code of Laws governing Aeronautics. Title 44 provides the most severe penalties which include forfeiture of title to an aircraft, imprisonment for up to one year and a fine of up to \$5000.00 for using an aircraft in connection with illicit drugs.

The purpose of Section 530 of Chapter 53, Title 44 is to impede the distribution of illicit drugs but to afford requisite protection to an innocent owner or lienholder in the event of forfeiture (*South Carolina State Law Enforcement Div. v. Crook*, 255 S.E.2d. 846 (1979)).

Seizure of an aircraft is permitted under this Section where it is being used unlawfully to conceal, contain, or transport controlled substances. A seized aircraft may be forfeited pursuant to an Attorney General's petition in the Circuit Court having jurisdiction over the seizure provided the requisite quantity of the illicit

substance was discovered pursuant to the seizure.

The interest of an innocent owner, parent, or guardian or entity will not be forfeited provided the court determines such person was not a consenting party, privy to, or otherwise had knowledge of the prohibited concealment, containment or transportation. However, the lack of such knowledge or consent of an innocent lienholder may not necessarily prevent the State from transferring title to a seized aircraft.

In the event of a forfeiture proceeding, the transfer is subject to the lien of an innocent lienholder. To assert his rights, this person must execute an affidavit attesting a lack of knowledge of any conviction of the owner for violation of a drug law and that he was not a consenting party or privy to the illegal acts which substantiated the forfeiture. ➔

## Charleston Terminal

*continued from p.1*

southern international gateway," a spokesman said.

Presently, project engineers are talking with MAC and U.S. Customs Service so their requirements can be integrated into the building.

And authority spokesman said bids on the construction of the building will be sought in late summer or early fall. Construction should start in late 1982.

The project began in November, 1980. The paving of taxiways and aprons and installation of water and sewer lines is nearing the final stages and should be complete at the end of summer, the spokesman said.

The 230,000 square foot building will include two levels and a mezzanine. All public activities will be on the upper level with baggage and operational space as well as mechanical and building support space on the lower level. ➔

## Breakfast Club



- July 4** Camden - Special meeting celebrating independence day
- July 11** Newberry Airport
- July 25** Daniel Field, Augusta, Ga.
- Aug. 8** Jekyll Island, Ga.  
This is an overnight meeting. For those who wish to stay, plan to arrive Saturday evening and stay at the Buccaneer Motel.
- Aug. 22** Berkeley County - Moncks Corner Airport



# Festival Organizers

Ron Clifford, left, and Sen. Tom Rutherford (D-NM) have helped organize the first annual Freedom Weekend Aloft festival in Greenville July 3rd, 4th, and 5th. More than 150 balloonists have registered for the three-day event, making the festival the largest hot air balloon race ever held east of the Mississippi, according to the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce. Rutherford, who helped organize the first Albuquerque Balloon fiesta 10 years ago, has been named balloon meister for the Greenville event. He will act as master of ceremonies and orchestrate the four racing events scheduled for the weekend.



## *Freedom Weekend Aloft:*

# Greenville July 4 balloon fest is largest east of Mississippi

More than 150 balloonists have signed up to participate in "Freedom Weekend Aloft" July 3, 4, and 5 in Greenville — an event billed as the largest hot air balloon race east of the Mississippi.

The event will be held at the Donaldson Center Industrial Airpark, a 2,300 acre former air base south of the city. Besides the balloon races, there will be air shows, parachute demonstrations, continuous live entertainment and concessions for the thousands of spectators expected.

During the three-day event, aeronauts will compete in four balloon events for some spectacular prizes including a classic Rolls Royce auto, an AX-7 hot air balloon and \$3,500 in other prizes.

The Rolls Royce Key grab will take place Saturday at 6 p.m. The balloonist will start three miles from Donaldson and race back. The first pilot to grab the keys off the top of

the flagpole at Donaldson will win the classic car.

The festival starts early the morning of July 3rd with a mass ascension of all balloons. There will be continuous live entertainment throughout the day and other activities for spectators.

On Sunday, July 4th, the day's activities will begin with a patriotic sunrise service. Then there will be a hare and hound race followed by a free-fall parachute demonstration. Again, There will be live entertainment, static displays and concessions throughout the day.

Sunday evening, Jack Marks and Mary Norwood, both commercial balloon pilots, will be married aloft in a public ceremony. There will also be fun flying and static displays of tethered balloons. A band concert and fireworks display will conclude the days' events.

## Schedule of Events

### **Saturday, July 3rd**

- 6:00 a.m. pilot briefing
- 7:00 a.m. mass ascension of balloons
- 9:00 a.m. pilots refuel
- Continuous live entertainment throughout the day by various bands, including Maurice Williams and the Zodiacs.
- 5:00 p.m. pilot briefing
- 6:00 p.m. Rolls Royce Key Grab (race starts three miles out, ends at Donaldson.)
- 7:00 p.m. pilots refuel

### **Sunday, July 4th**

- 6:00 a.m. pilot briefing
- 6:30 a.m. sunrise/patriotic service. Music by the Smokey Mountain British Brass Band
- 7:00 a.m. Hare and Hound Race
- 7:00 a.m. CNT balloon event
- 7:30 a.m. free-fall parachuting demo

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*continued on p. 4*





## **SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION**

P.O. Drawer 1987

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

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# **Ralph Schmidt, Mike Laughlin elected Chairman, V. Chairman**

Ralph F. Schmidt, a Greenville businessman and Michael L. Laughlin, a former state senator and owner of Eagle Aviation, were elected to one year terms as chairman and vice chairman of the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission at a meeting last month.

Schmidt, who was vice chairman, succeeds Joe Wilder as head of the Commission. Wilder, a Barnwell radio station owner, had been chairman for the past six years.

Schmidt was appointed to the Commission October, 1973 by then Gov. John C. West. He has served as vice chairman for the past five years. He owns and flies a Piper Aerostar 600 A and a Twin

Commanche.

Schmidt is chairman of the Board of the Schmidt Group, a service corporation for a number of businesses, most of which are involved in manufacturing equipment for the textile industry.

He has lived in Greenville since 1950 and has been active in civic affairs. He is a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner. He started the Flying Nobles, a unit of the Hejaz Shrine that has made more than 50 mercy flights.

During his nine years on the Commission, Schmidt has had the opportunity to work with both air carrier and regional-community airports.

"I will continue the work of the past year in seeing that all airports in the state are maintained and improved where needed to continue our high safety standards and provide economic benefit to business and industry."

Michael Laughlin, a Commissioner for 4½ years, is president of Eagle Aviation in Columbia, owner-operator of Mill Race Tree Farm and president of WAKN radio station in Aiken.

Laughlin is a commercial pilot and holds both single and multi-engine land airplane ratings and helicopter and instrument ratings.

He served in the South Carolina State Senate as a senator from District 8 from 1969 to 1975. ➔

## **Balloon Festival**

***continued from p. 3***

Monday morning, there will be another race and balloon event.

Upwards of 100,000 spectators are expected during the three-day event, according to the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce. Admission is \$5 per car each day. Camping facilities are available at \$10 per night or \$20 for the weekend. The campground is on Donaldson, near the balloon launch site.

Hours are from 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. July 3, 5:30 a.m. to Sundown July 4th; and 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. July 5th. All balloon events will take place in the early morning and late

afternoon because the air is calmer.

Freedom Weekend Aloft is sponsored jointly by Holiday Aloft, Inc. and the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce. Representatives of

Holiday Aloft, Inc. are also the organizers of the Albuquerque International Fiesta, an annual event which attracts balloonists from all over the world. ➔

## **Freedom Weekend Aloft: schedule of events**

***continued from p. 3***

Continuous live entertainment, including music by John Hartford

5:30 p.m. free-fall parachuting demonstration

6:30 p.m. fun flying (pilot's option)

6:30 p.m. Wedding aloft

### **Sunday, July 4th**

Continuous live entertainment throughout the evening

7:00 p.m. static displays of tethered balloons

8:00 p.m. pilots refuel

8-9:45 pm Greenville Civic Band and fireworks finale

### **Monday, July 5th**

6:00 a.m. pilot briefing

7:00 a.m. hare and hound race

7:00 a.m. CNT balloon event